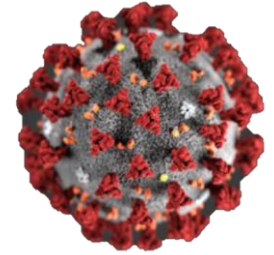


# New Hampshire Coronavirus Disease 2019 Weekly Call for School Partners



## Agenda:

- Opening Remarks – Dr. Ben Chan, Dr. Elizabeth Talbot, Dr. Beth Daly
- Q&A – To ask a question, use the Q&A feature in Zoom
  - Hover over bottom of Zoom screen to find “Q&A”
  - This is a public call, be careful about what you share (no confidential/sensitive information)
  - Ask general questions, individual consultation should be directed to the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 (ask for a public health staff members)

# Thanksgiving Next Week

**No School Partner Call Next Week!**

Next Call With Schools Will Be On  
Wednesday 12/2 at 3:30 pm

# Overview of Topics to Discuss

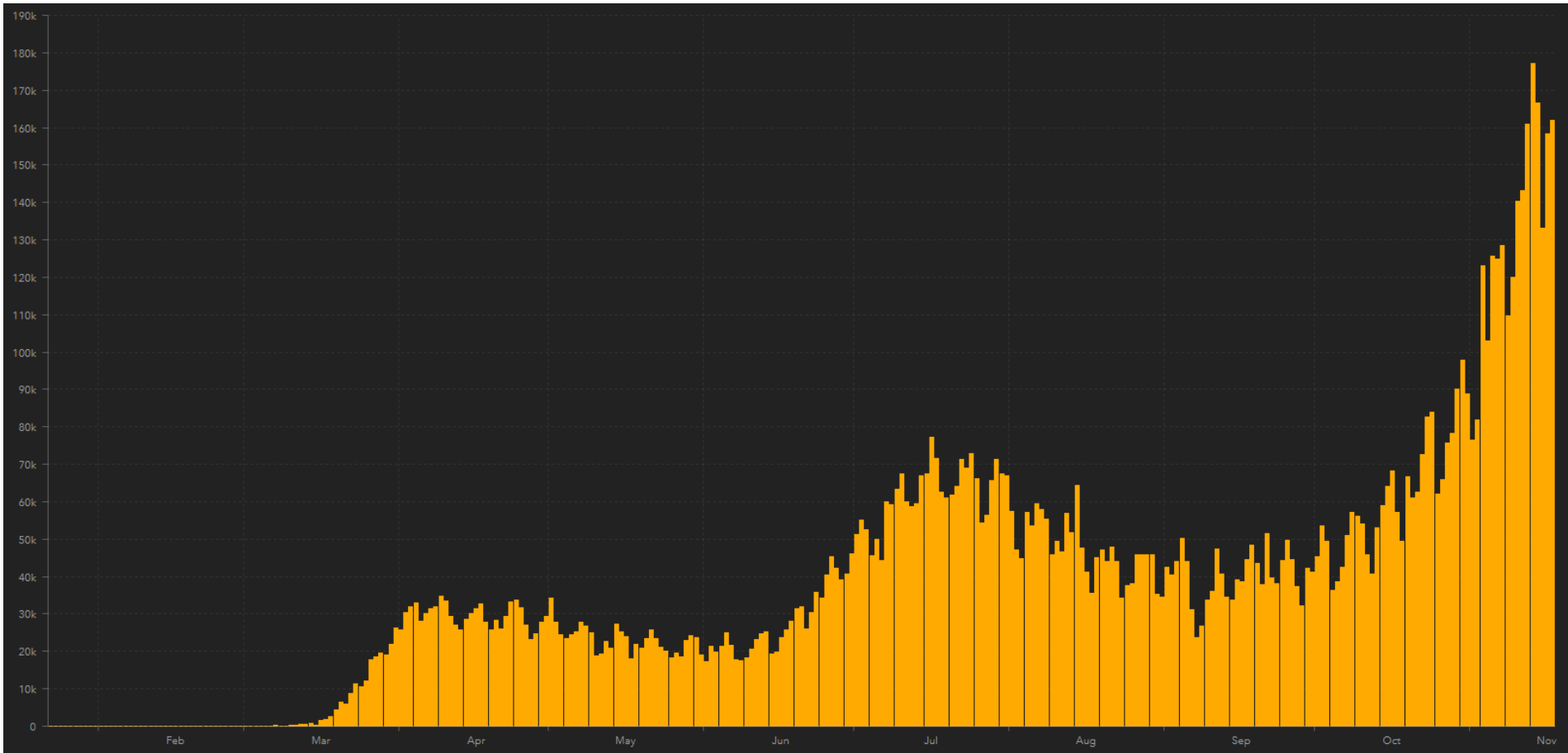
1. Epidemiology update
2. Instructional model decision matrix and school epi update
3. Travel guidance updates
4. Contact tracing updates

# Tracking the Pandemic

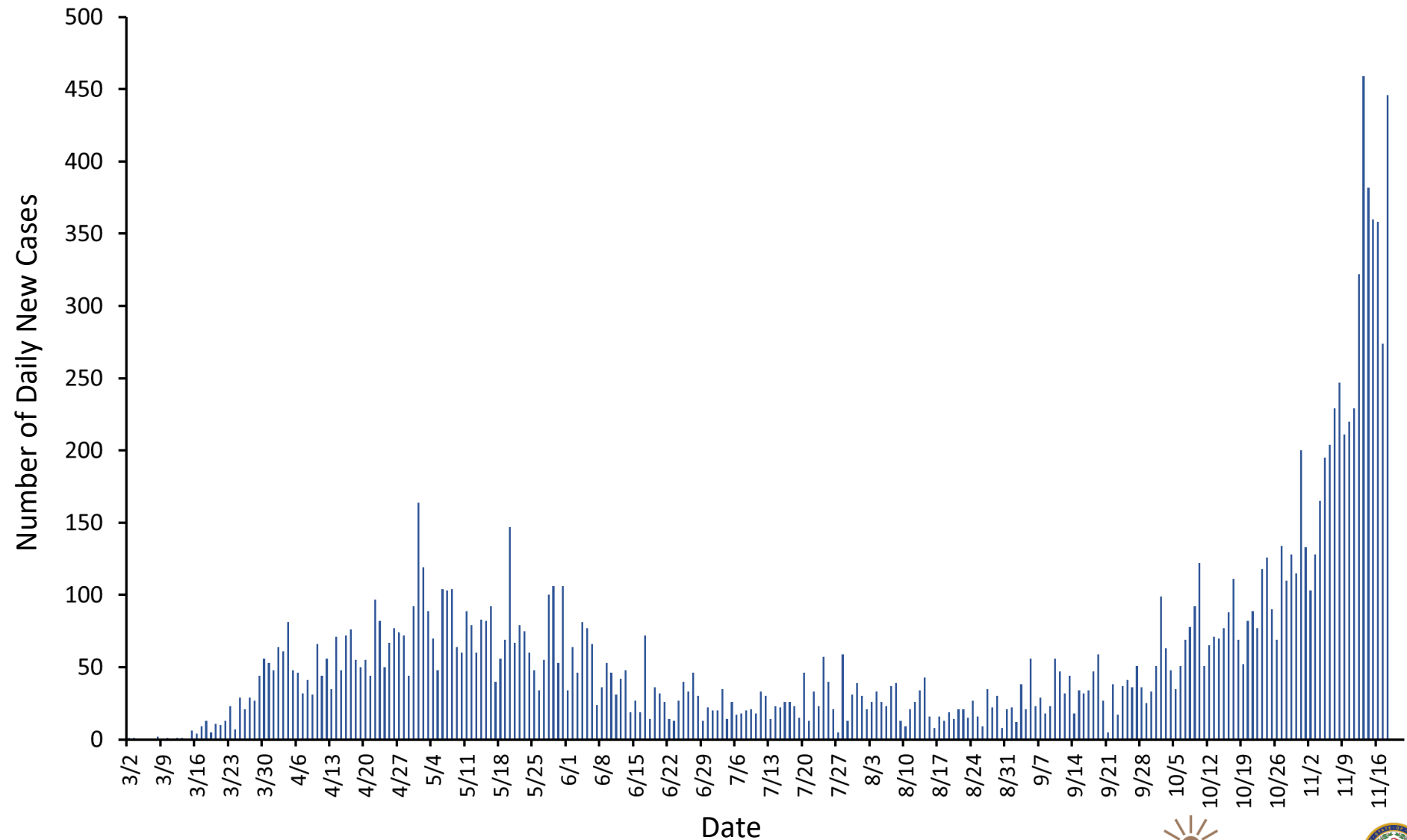
Data “Interactive Analytics” Dashboard

[www.nh.gov/covid19](http://www.nh.gov/covid19)

# National Daily Incidence of COVID-19

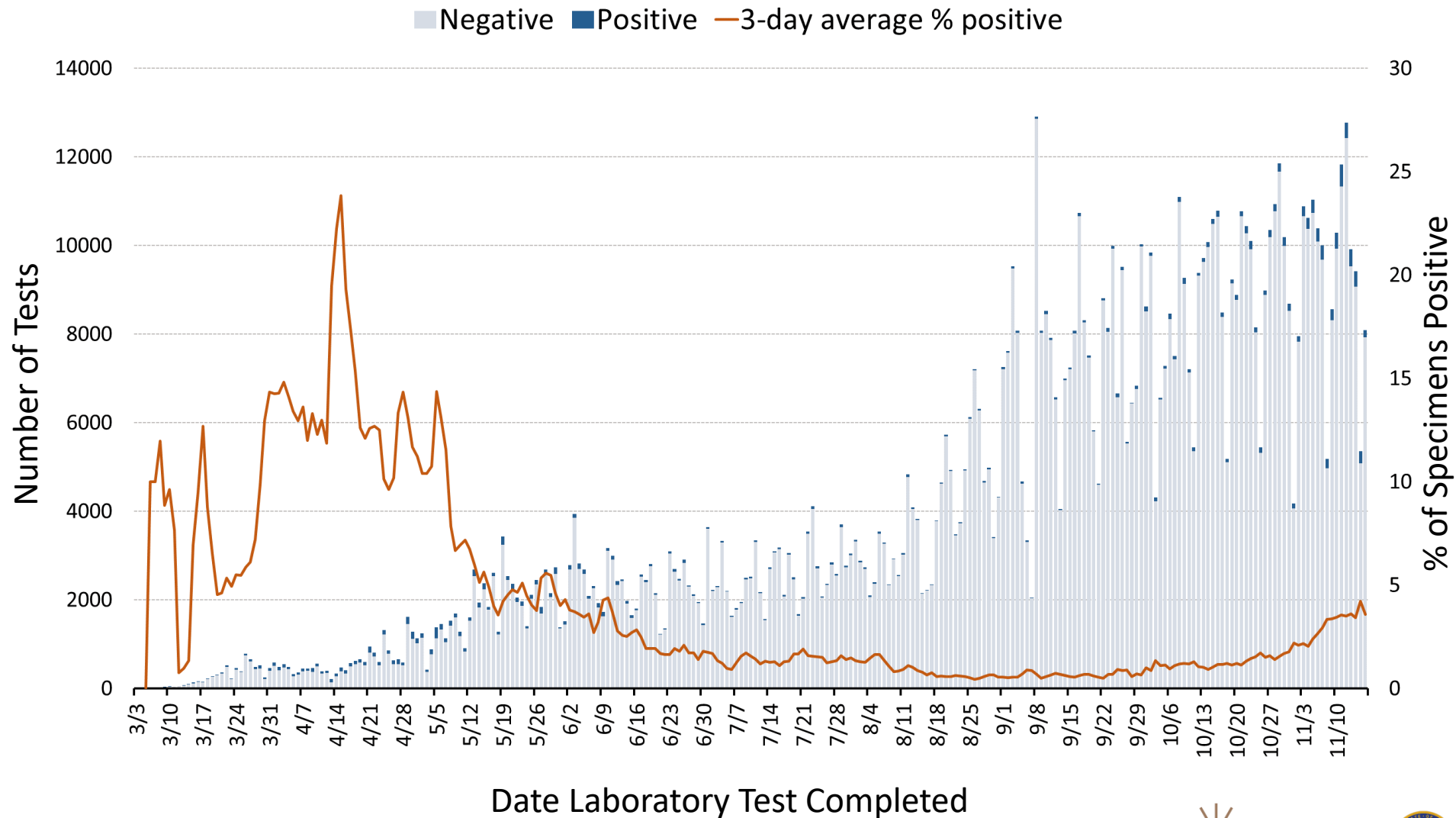


# Number of New COVID-19 Cases per Day in NH



<https://www.nh.gov/covid19/dashboard/overview.htm#dash>

# % of PCR-Based Tests Positive for COVID-19



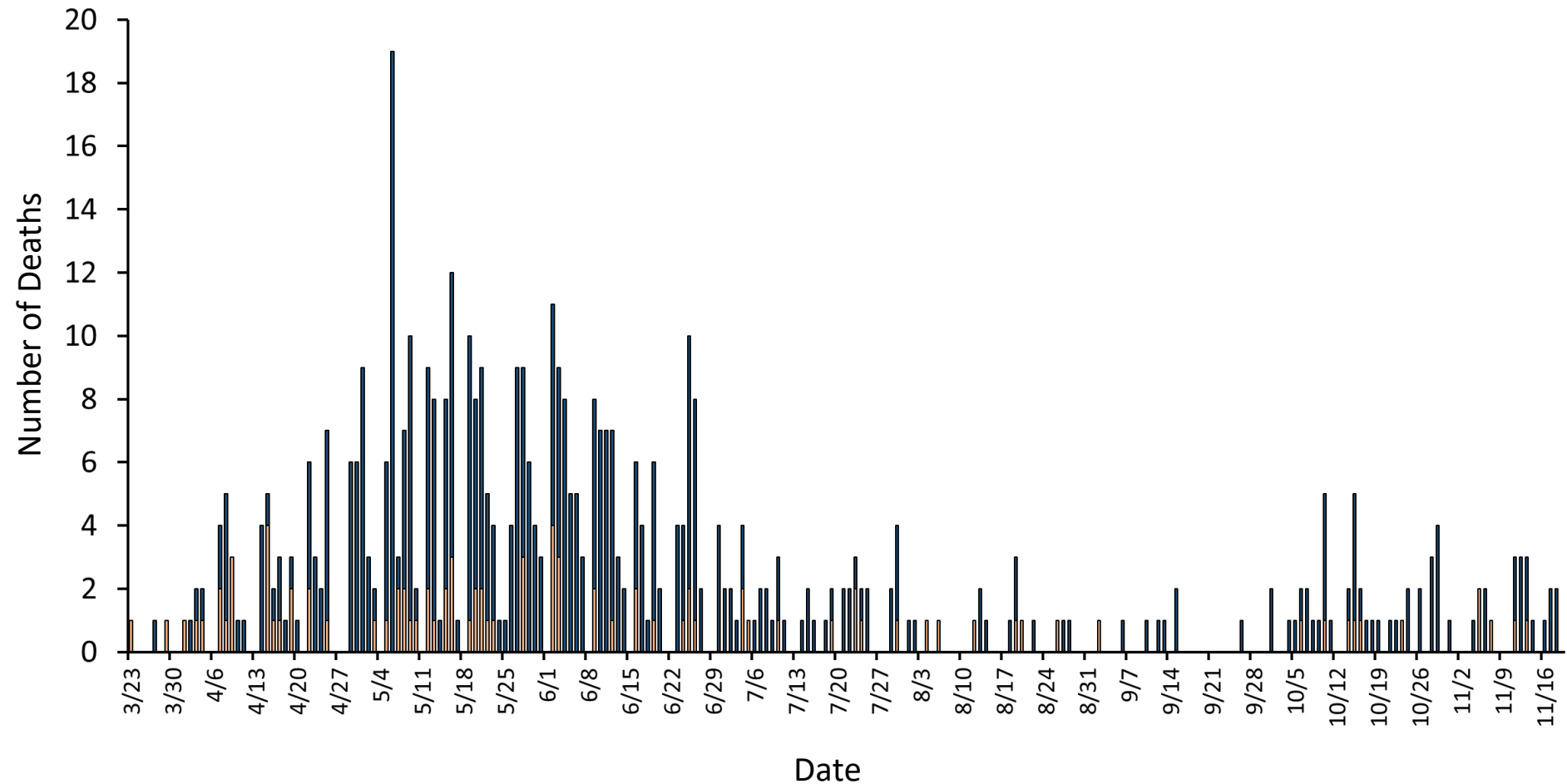
# Number of People Hospitalized with COVID-19 Each Day in NH (Hospital Census)





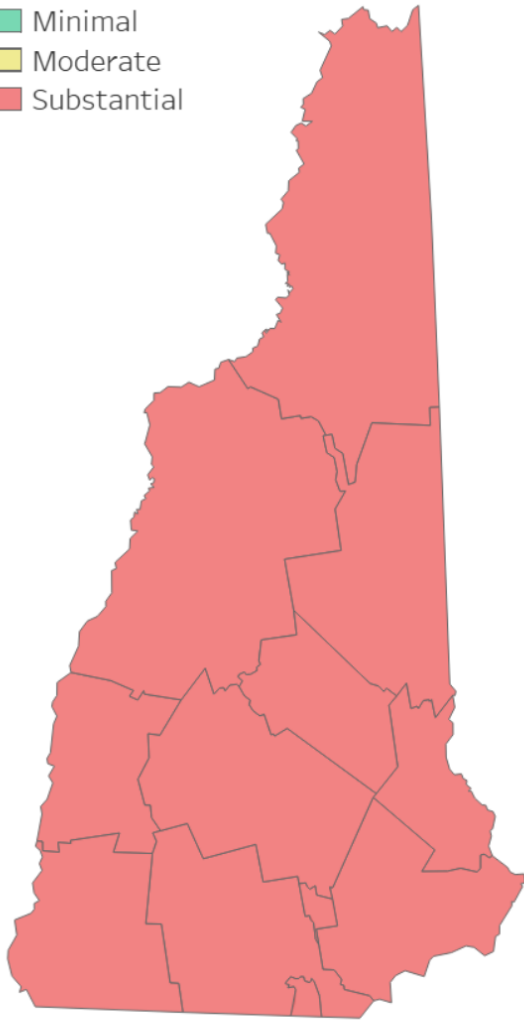
# Number of COVID-19 Deaths in NH by Report Date

Non-LTCF Associated    LTCF Associated



# Level of Community Transmission

Minimal  
Moderate  
Substantial



Level of  
Transmission

**Substantial**

New Cases per 100k  
over 14 days

**286.1**

New Hosp per 100k  
over 14 days

**1.6**

7-Day PCR Test  
Positivity Rate

**3.4%**

Data as of: 11/17/2020

<https://www.nh.gov/covid19/dashboard/schools.htm#dash>

# Considerations for Transitioning Between School Instructional Models

NH DPHS Guidance:

[https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/  
documents/school-instruction-guidance.pdf](https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/covid19/documents/school-instruction-guidance.pdf)

# Instructional Model Decision Matrix

		Level of Community Transmission		
		Minimal	Moderate	Substantial
Level of School Impact	Low	In-Person	In-Person	Hybrid
	Medium	In-Person	Hybrid	Remote
	High	Hybrid	Remote	Remote

# Use of the Decision Matrix

- The Decision Matrix is intended to be a guide for making decisions about how/when to switch school instructional models with metrics schools should consider
- If a school/district is operating with an in-person instructional model (full in-person or hybrid) and able to manage with low school impact despite a "substantial" levels of community transmission, then schools can very reasonably, and are encouraged to, hold course and continue with in-person instruction if resources (e.g., staffing) allow
- There has not been significant transmission of COVID-19 identified related to school operations

# COVID-19 Burden in K-12 Schools

- Total number of students/staff with COVID-19 in K-12 schools: **530** (over the last 2-3 months)
  - Total number of K-12 schools impacted: **230**
- There have been **17 clusters** in non-residential K-12 schools
  - Total number of infections associated with clusters: **85**
  - Average number of infections per cluster: **5 (range: 3-8 cases)**
- Interpretation: out of hundreds of students and staff with COVID-19 potentially exposing persons in K-12 schools, there has been minimal transmission within schools

# Updated NH Travel Guidance (Two Documents)

[General Travel Guidance](#)

[Employer Travel, Screening, & Exclusion Guidance](#)

# NH's Current Travel and Quarantine Guidance

- Any travel or social/family gathering increases a person's risk for getting infected and spreading COVID-19
- We continue to recommend against any non-essential personal or business travel
- People should avoid gathering with others who are not part of a person's immediate household, even during the holidays
- People traveling outside the six New England states (ME, NH, VT, MA, RI, CT) need to self-quarantine for 14 days from last day of travel outside New England (unchanged)



# NH's Current Travel and Quarantine Guidance

- Travelers now have the option to shorten their travel-related quarantine if all the following apply:
  1. They get a PCR test on day 7 of quarantine or later (antigen testing is not appropriate for testing out of travel quarantine)
  2. The PCR test is negative
  3. The person is asymptomatic
  4. There is no known “close contact” to a person with COVID-19
- Exemptions to travel quarantine (TQ) are still allowed for “essential travel”, or if an employee is considered an essential critical infrastructure employee (“essential employee”)
- For the “essential employee” exemption, the person can only return to work under the set of restrictions listed in the guidance, but the person must adhere to all other aspects of TQ guidance

# Be Aware of Other States' Travel Guidance

- States have different restrictions and requirements for out-of-state travelers, including:
  - Quarantine requirements for travelers from “high risk” areas
  - Restrictions on gatherings
  - Mask mandates
  - Testing requirements
  - Closure or restrictions on certain businesses
  - Curfew
- New Hampshire is considered a “high risk” area by many other States

# NH's Daily Number of New Cases per 100,000 Population



# CDC “Travel Planner” Web Portal Coming

Centralized communication platform for COVID-19 travel restrictions and policies enacted by state, local, tribal, and territorial governments.



<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>

# Public Health Contact Tracing Update

# Public Health Contact Investigations

- Contact tracing is a containment strategy to stop spread of COVID-19
- As community transmission increases it becomes less effective at identifying and breaking chains of transmission
- It will take strict adherence to the community mitigation interventions (i.e., avoiding social gatherings, social distancing, face mask use, etc.) to reduce community transmission

# Prioritization of Investigations

- NH DPHS will prioritize contact tracing for those persons who have an increased potential to transmit infection in congregate settings, or those who are disproportionately impacted by COVID-19, including:
  - People 18 years of age and younger
  - People 65 years of age and older
  - Any person associated with a healthcare facility or congregate setting (LTCFs, schools, etc.)
  - Racial and ethnic minorities
  - Any clusters or outbreaks
- NH DPHS will continue to conduct investigations for students and staff who have COVID-19 and are associated with schools

# Updated Resources for Isolation/Quarantine

- We have updated our guidance for people with COVID-19 and for people exposed to COVID-19 to help provide more clear instruction:
  - [Isolation Guide](#)
  - [Quarantine Guide](#)

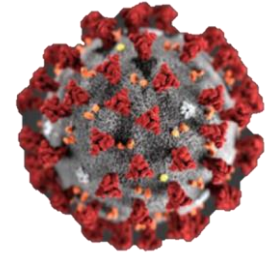


# Thanksgiving Next Week

**No School Partner Call Next Week!**

Next Call With Schools Will Be On  
Wednesday 12/2 at 3:30 pm

# New Hampshire Coronavirus Disease 2019 Weekly Call for School Partners



## Agenda:

- Opening Remarks – Dr. Ben Chan, Dr. Elizabeth Talbot, Dr. Beth Daly
- Q&A – To ask a question, use the Q&A feature in Zoom
  - Hover over bottom of Zoom screen to find “Q&A”
  - This is a public call, be careful about what you share (no confidential/sensitive information)
  - Ask general questions, individual consultation should be directed to the Bureau of Infectious Disease Control at 603-271-4496 (ask for a public health staff members)